
Part 22 – CHILD CARE CENTRES

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Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to facilitate achieving a suitable physical environment and facilities in *child care centres* that -

- safeguard children from harm by ensuring safe and hygienic conditions; and
- fosters optimal development of children by providing a suitable environment.

Application

This standard applies to *child care centres*.

A development application for building work approval for a *child care centre* must be assessed for compliance against the criteria of this standard.

Under the *Child Care Act 2002*, certification by an accredited building certifier that the premises conform with this standard will be a pre-requisite for the issuing of a new licence for a child care centre and may be a pre-requisite for the renewal or amendment of a licence for a child care centre. A written certificate from an accredited building certifier may also be required during the term of the licence if any of the standards are not being complied with.

Referral Agency

Under Schedule 2 of the *Integrated Planning Regulation 1998*, the Department of Families is a concurrence agency with jurisdiction to assess the building work for compliance with the Performance Requirements of this code.

Associated Requirements

- *Child Care Act 2002*.
- *Child Care Regulation 2003*.
- *Standard Building Regulation 1993*.
- *Building Code of Australia 1996 (BCA)*

Referenced Standards

- AS1428.1-1998 – design for access and mobility – General requirements for access – New building work.
- AS 1924 – 1981 – Playground equipment for parks, schools and domestic use – General requirements.
- AS 1926.1–1993 – Swimming pool safety - Fencing for swimming pools
- AS 2155 – 1982 Playgrounds – Guide to siting and installation and maintenance of equipment.
- AS/NZS 3000 - 2000 - Electrical Installations.
- AS 3500.4 – 1997 – National Plumbing and Drainage – Hot water supply systems.

- AS/NZS 4422 – 1996 -Playground surfaces- Specifications, requirements and testing methods.
- AS/NZS - Food Standards Code.

Definitions

Note: Italicised words within the body of the text are defined.

Child care centre means a centre based child care service required to be licensed pursuant to the *Child Care Act 2002*.

School age care service means a licensed service for which, under its licence condition, the children in care-

- must always be comprised entirely or mostly school children; and
- must never include a child of less than 4 years.

Functional area means either a part of or an adjunct to an indoor play area, which is used for ancillary purposes such as program preparation, bottle preparation, nappy changing, toilets, washing facilities, food preparation or the like.

Group or Age Group means children of like nominated ages accommodated together. The maximum number of children in each group is as follows:

Ages of children in group	Maximum group size	Other limits
Birth to 2 years	8	
Birth to 3 years, including at least 1 child aged 3 years	10	The group may not include more than 2 children aged birth to 1 year for each qualified carer.
15 months to 3 years	10	
2 to 3 years	12	
2 ½ to 3 years	16	
3 to 6 years	24	
4 to 6 years	25	
4 to 12 years, including at least 1 child of more than 6 years	no maximum	The group may not include more than 13 children aged 4 or 5 years
Ages for which no other entry applies	21	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The group may not include more than 4 children aged birth to 1 year. The group may not include more than 2 children aged birth to 1 year for each qualified carer. If the group is in a centre based service

		with a <i>licensed capacity</i> of more than 30, the group may not include more than 10 children aged birth to 2 years.
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Licensed Capacity for a centre based service means the maximum number of children to whom child care may be provided at any one time under the licence. The *licensed capacity* of a service other than a school age care service may not be set at more than 75 for any time other than for the stated periods on the licence totalling not more than 2 hours each day. For these stated periods, the requirements of these standards shall be based on the service's usual *licensed capacity* rather than the increased capacity during the 2 hour period.

Emergency care periods apply during which the number of children being cared for in the course of a centre based service is more than the service's *licensed capacity*. The licensee is taken not to be contravening the licence condition about the service's *licensed capacity* during the period if emergency care is being provided during the period to 1 child, or a sibling group. For these emergency care periods the requirements of these standards shall be based on the service's usual *licensed capacity* rather than the increased capacity during the emergency care period.

Under section 180 of the *Child Care Act 2002* the licence capacity for a centre based service only may be set at more than 75 if the licensed capacity applying to the service immediately before the commencement day of the *Child Care Act 2002* was more than 75. This does not apply to school age care services.

The licensed capacity of a school age care service maybe set at any appropriate number.

Unit means two *groups* of children under the age of 15 months, where each group is accommodated in separate areas for all purposes other than accessing facilities such as the staff washbasin in the nappy change facilities and the bottle preparation area.

Outdoor play facilities* “means facilities that provide an environment suitable for a range of play activities, including gross motor activities, located in an area separated from and in addition to an area where *indoor play facilities* are located”.

Outdoor play area* means an unenclosed area located outside the external walls of the building.

***Note:** While it is preferable that outdoor play facilities are located in outdoor areas, in cases where suitable outdoor play areas are not available or where severe climatic conditions or noise and air pollution are detrimental to children, outdoor play facilities may be located indoors.

**PERFORMANCE
CRITERIA**
ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS
Accessibility

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| <p>P1 Accessibility within premises used for a <i>child care centre</i> other than a <i>school age care service</i>, must-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) inhibit unauthorised access and egress; and (b) provide ease of access for children between indoor and outdoor areas; and (c) provide safe passage within the premises; and (d) minimise the risk of accidents from falling; and (e) enable persons with disabilities to move between the building and any outdoor area; and (f) inhibit young children from gaining access to dangerous areas; and (g) facilitate the safe evacuation of children in an emergency; and (h) minimise disturbance to other <i>groups</i>; and (i) minimise the need for equipment and materials to be carried through an indoor area occupied by children, to minimise the risk of accidents. | <p>A1 A <i>child care centre</i>, other than a <i>school age care service</i>, is provided with access and barriers in accordance with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) An indoor play area has at least one door leading to its associated outdoor play area. (b) Indoor and outdoor areas are connected with access complying with AS1428.1. (c) Other access ways between indoor and outdoor areas is by way of ramps having a gradient not greater than 1:8. (d) Each <i>group</i> has access between the <i>group's</i> indoor play area and an outdoor play area without passing through another <i>group's</i> indoor play area. (e) Fencing not less than 1.2 m high complying with AS 1926.1–1993, is provided around those parts of a centre where children are cared for, including all buildings and grounds accessible to children. (f) Any pedestrian access openings in the fencing are protected with a self closing, self-latching, gate or door complying with AS 1926.1–1993. (g) Any swimming pool, as defined in the <i>Building Act 1975</i>, on the premises is provided with a separate fence to a standard no less than that required for a swimming pool under AS 1926.1-1993, except that direct access is not provided between any building and the pool. (h) The centre is fenced to inhibit |
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**PERFORMANCE
CRITERIA**
ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS

P2	<p>Accessibility within premises used for a <i>school age care service</i>, must-</p> <p>(a) enable persons with disabilities to move between the building and any outdoor area; and</p> <p>(b) inhibit young children from gaining access to dangerous areas.</p>	A2	<p>unauthorized access by children to any serious hazards such as water bodies and roads, that are adjacent to the site, to a standard no less than that required for a swimming pool under clause (g).</p> <p>(i) Any gate in the perimeter fence which is required for service vehicles is key-locked closed at all times when children are outdoors.</p> <p>(j) Clear access ways are provided and maintained for the evacuation of children in an emergency.</p> <p>A <i>child care centre</i> used for a <i>school age care service</i> is provided with access and barriers in accordance with the following:</p> <p>(a) Access between indoor and outdoor areas, complies with AS1428.1.</p> <p>(b) Any swimming pool, as defined in the <i>Building Act 1975</i>, on the premises is provided with a separate fence to a standard no less than that required for a swimming pool under AS 1926.1-1993, except that direct access is not provided between any building and the pool.</p>
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Indoor play facilities

- P3** Premises used for a *child care centre* other than a *school age care service*, must be provided with an indoor play area for each *group*, which-
- (a) facilitates the creation of a safe environment free from overcrowding so as to minimise the risk of injury, conflict between children, illness due to infection and loss of amenity; and
 - (b) permits the ready supervision of all parts from any other part, including all *functional areas* for that *group*; and
 - (c) provides unimpeded access to children's toilets and washing facilities; and
 - (d) provides unimpeded access to outdoor play areas; and
 - (e) provides unimpeded access for staff between *functional areas* for that *group*; and
 - (f) minimises noise nuisance from the reflection and transmission of excessive sound; and
 - (g) enables the temperature to be maintained at a comfortable level relative to the prevailing climatic conditions; and
 - (h) provides suitable separation between each *group's* area to minimise
- A3** A *child care centre*, other than a *school age care service*, has indoor play facilities in accordance with the following:
- (a) The indoor play space has an area of not less than 3.25 m² for each child within the *group* it serves, exclusive of any passageway, thoroughfare, storage areas (including areas required for bedding), children's lockers, built-in furniture, cots, separate sleeping areas, toilets, bathrooms, washrooms, kitchens, offices, laundries, entrances and staff rooms.
 - (b) All parts of the indoor play space and toilet area for a *group* are able to be readily viewed by staff.
 - (c) The indoor play space is located so as to avoid the need for people who are not part of the *group*, to pass through it.
 - (d) The required toilets and washbasins for a *group* adjoin the indoor play space for that *group*.
 - (e) A *group* has unimpeded access to toilets, washbasins and outdoor play areas without the need to pass through another *group's* indoor play space.
 - (f) Indoor play spaces for each group are separated by walls or partitions that have a sound insulation rating equivalent to that provided by a 70 mm framed wall sheeted both sides with 10 mm plasterboard or glazed areas or doors, all of which extend down to the floor and have a height of not less than 1200 mm.
 - (g) Where the average maximum daytime outside temperature

disruption.

during winter is less than 20° C, indoor play spaces have a heating system capable of maintaining a daytime air temperature inside of not less than 18° C in winter, while fresh air is introduced at a rate of not less than 10 litres per second for each child that the area is designed to cater for.

- (h) Where the average maximum daytime outside temperature during summer exceeds 34° C, indoor play spaces have;
 - (i) a cooling installation capable of maintaining a daytime air temperature inside, in summer, at least 4° C below the outside temperature, and which introduces fresh air at a rate of not less than 10 litres per second for each child that the area is designed to cater for; and
 - (ii) unless provision is made to limit relative humidity to a maximum of 80%, fans are provided to achieve an average air flow across the room of not less than 0.5 m/s.
- (i) Where the average maximum daytime outside temperature during summer does not exceed 34° C, indoor play spaces have fans which achieve an average air flow across the room of not less than 0.5 m/s.

Sleeping facilities

- P4** Premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for children under the age of 15 months, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, must be provided with suitable sleeping facilities which—
- (a) provide a safe and healthy environment to minimise the risk of accidents and illness; and
 - (b) permit visual supervision from the indoor play area, including *functional areas* for that *group*; and
 - (c) permit easy access to all parts of the sleeping area; and
 - (d) permit easy evacuation of children, including cots containing children, in the event of an emergency; and
 - (e) provide a quiet environment.
- A4** A *child care centre* that caters for children under the age of 15 months, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week has—
- (a) for each *group* a sleeping room separate from the group's indoor play area which—
 - (i) has an area of not less than 2.5m² for each child under the age of 15 months; and
 - (ii) is provided with one or more glazed panels having a total area of not less than 1m², located such that any part of the room is no more than 3m from a panel, and which permit the observation of all parts of the sleeping area from the indoor play area; and
 - (iii) has any external openings fitted with insect screens; and
 - (b) has a door leading to the associated indoor area
 - (c) a path of travel from each sleeping area to outdoors, which may be via other rooms, having a width of not less than 1 m, with any doorway therein having a clear width of not less than 950 mm.

Outdoor play facilities

- P5** Premises used for a *child care centre* other than a *school age care service* must be provided with outdoor play facilities for each *group*, which—
- (a) facilitates the creation of a safe environment free from overcrowding so as
- A5** (a) A *child care centre*, other than a *school age care service*, has *outdoor play facilities*, in accordance with the following:
- (i) *Outdoor play facilities* are located in *outdoor play areas* orientated to take advantage of winter sun, summer shade and

- to minimise the risk of injury, conflict between children, illness and loss of amenity; and
- (b) permit visual supervision by staff of all children within a *group*, at all times; and
 - (c) provide children with the opportunity to experience, interact with and be stimulated by both the natural and the surrounding built environment; and
 - (d) provide an environment suitable for a variety of play activities; and
 - (e) provide unimpeded access for staff and children to children's toilets, nappy change areas and personal washing facilities; and
 - (f) are readily accessible from indoor play areas; and
 - (g) are shaded to avoid excessive ground surface temperatures, and reduce exposure to UV radiation.

In addition, premises used for a *child care centre* other than a *school age care service* that have outdoor play facilities located indoors must provide for each *group*, facilities which-

- (h) have raised ceilings to provide a feeling of openness; and
 - (i) allows noise to be managed so that children using indoor play shelter from prevailing winds.
- (ii) *Outdoor play areas*, including access doors to toilets and to indoor areas, are able to be readily viewed by staff from other parts of that outdoor play area.
 - (iii) Toilets adjoin and provide unimpeded access for children from the outdoor play area they serve.
 - (iv) A *group* has unimpeded access to the outdoor play without passing through another *group's* indoor play space.
 - (v) The surface is sloped to prevent the ponding of water.
 - (vi) A variety of surfaces is provided, including hard, soft, level and undulating.
 - (vii) Playground equipment structures comply with AS 1924 and AS 2155.
 - (viii) Soft-fall areas complying with AS 4422 are provided to play ground equipment with a fall height exceeding 50 cm.
- (b) A *child care centre*, other than one that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or for a *school age care service*, has outdoor play facilities that have-

- (i) a total area of not less than 7 m² for each child of the *licensed capacity*; and
- (ii) a shaded area which is part of the total area not less than 2 m² for each child of the *licensed capacity*; and
- (iii) at least 50% of the required shaded area in (ii) is roofed with a material impervious to water and UV radiation; and
- (iv) the areas in (i) and (ii) are

- facilities are not significantly impacted by those using the outdoor play facilities; and
- (j) allow children to see outdoors to a natural environment; and
 - (k) have windows or openings that provide lighting from a natural light source to simulate a natural environment; and
 - (l) have windows or openings that provide opportunities for natural airflow to simulate a natural environment; and
 - (m) have a significant definition between the indoor play facilities from the outdoor play facilities; and
 - (n) have outdoor play facilities that can be cleaned; and
 - (o) provides adequate unencumbered space for the licensed capacity; and
 - (p) provides children with access to natural materials.
- calculated exclusive of garden beds used only as landscaping, land that is rough, steeper than 1 in 6, less than 2 m in width, permanent storage areas or sheds, and any fenced body of water and its surrounds within the fencing.
- (c) A *child care centre* that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, other than a *school age care service*, has outdoor play facilities that have-
 - (i) a total area of not less than 5 m² for each child of the *licensed capacity*; and
 - (ii) a shaded area which is part of the total area which is not less than 1 m² for each child of the *licensed capacity*; and
 - (iii) the areas in (i) and (ii) are calculated exclusive of garden beds used only as landscaping, land that is rough, steeper than 1 in 6, less than 2 m in width, permanent storage areas or sheds, and any fenced body of water and its surrounds within the fencing.

Combined play spaces

P6 Premises that cater for a **A6** Premises used for a *child care centre*

school age care service, must be provided with play spaces that-

- (a) provide a safe environment to minimise the risk of injury, and
- (b) provide an environment suitable for a variety of play activities.

have a total combined play space area not less than 15.25 m² for each child of the *licensed capacity*. This shall incorporate an indoor play space of not less than 3.25 m² per child, and an outdoor play space of not less than 7 m² per child.

Toilet Facilities

P7

A *child care centre* must be provided with suitable toilet facilities which –

- (a) safeguard the health of children from injury and infection; and
- (b) minimise delays for children requiring to use a toilet; and
- (c) are readily accessible to children; and
- (d) facilitate independent use; and
- (e) enable staff to provide assistance; and
- (f) permits adequate supervision by staff, appropriate to the age of the children; and
- (g) are screened so as to respect the dignity of children, and are appropriate having regard to the ages of the children.

A7

(a) Toilet facilities in premises used for a *child care centre*, that provides care to children over 15 months other than one that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, or a *school age care service*, have-

- (i) at least one child size water closet suite for every 10 children of the *licensed capacity*; and
- (ii) at least 2 water closet suites in each location, except that where the children cared for are in the *age group* 15 months to 2½ years, one can be a training commode.

(b) Toilet facilities in premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for 30 children or less at any one time, for 20 hours or less per week, and which is not a *school age care service*, have-

- (i) at least 2 water closet suites; and
- (ii) where adult water closet suites are used, a junior toilet seat and a stable platform for a child to step on.

(c) Toilet facilities in premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for a *school age care service*, have at least one water closet

suite for every 15 children cared for.

- (d) Toilet facilities in premises used for a *child care centre* that is not a *school age care service*, have-
 - (i) children's toilets adjoining the area they serve that provide unimpeded access to that *group*; and
 - (ii) wall and floor surfaces impervious without cracks and crevices; and
 - (iii) slip resistant floor surfaces.
- (e) Toilet facilities in premises used for a *child care centre* that is not a *school age care service*, are-
 - (i) screened from the view of children in the indoor play space by a wall, which, except for doorways, is opaque for a height of 900 mm to 1200 mm high above floor level. The upper section may be open or clear glazed to permit supervision; and
- (f) Premises used for a *school age care service*, have water closet suites separated by walls or partitions, and doors, that afford privacy.

Nappy change facilities

- P8** A *child care centre* accommodating children younger than 2½ years of age must be provided with suitable, separate nappy change facilities for each nominated *age group* which –
- (a) safeguard the health of children from infection; and
 - (b) safeguard children and carers from injury; and
 - (c) minimise delays for children requiring a nappy change; and
 - (d) create an environment conducive to interaction between children and carer; and
 - (e) permit visual supervision of other parts of the play area for that *group*.
- A8** (a) Nappy change facilities are provided in premises used for a *child care centre* other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time, for 20 hours or less per week, in accordance with the following:
- (i) They are situated adjacent to the area accommodating each *group* they serve; and-
 - (A) are built-in or otherwise securely fixed to prevent accidental dislodgement; and
 - (B) have an impervious surface without cracks and crevices so as to be easily cleanable.
 - (ii) A washbasin, supplied with hot and cold water limited to a maximum temperature in accordance with the AS 3500.4, provided for staff at bench height for each *unit*, is situated within 500 mm of the change mat facility.
 - (iii) A sluice or a flushing fixture that is attached to a toilet that is in addition to the required toilets, is situated in close proximity to any required nappy change area.
 - (iv) The wall and floor surfaces are impervious and without cracks and crevices.
 - (v) Floor surfaces are slip resistant.
- (b) Premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for children under the age of 15 months, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time, for 20 hours or less per week, have the following additional

nappy change facilities-

- (i) one built-in infant size bath with an integral hand held shower, supplied with hot and cold water limited to a maximum temperature in accordance with the AS 3500.4, at a height of 900 mm, for each *group* of 8 children of that *age group*; and
 - (ii) for each required bath, a built-in area 90cm deep and 80cm wide for drying and dressing children is provided, at a height of 900 mm, situated within 500 mm of the bath. This may double as a nappy change facility required above.
- (c) Premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, have-
- (i) A nappy change mat facility for each designated *group*, which is-
 - (A) built-in or otherwise securely fixed to prevent accidental dislodgement; and
 - (B) not less than 90 cm deep and 80cm wide and 900 mm high.
 - (C) has an impervious surface without cracks and crevices so as to be easily cleanable.
 - (ii) A sluice or a flushing fixture that is attached to a toilet that is in addition to the required toilets is located, on the premises.
- (d) In addition, premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for 30 children or less at any one time,

for 20 hours or less per week and has children under the age of 15 months, have-

- (i) a washbasin for staff use, supplied with hot and cold water limited to a maximum temperature in accordance with AS 3500.4, on the premises; and
- (ii) bench space of not less than 1 m² for a portable bath for each *group* of 8 children; and
- (iii) for each required bath, a built-in area 90cm deep and 80cm wide for drying and dressing children, at a height of 900 mm and situated within 500 mm of the bath. This may double as the nappy change mat facility required above.

Personal washing facilities

P9

A *child care centre* must be provided with separate personal washing facilities for each nominated *age group* which –

- (a) minimise delays for children requiring to use a washbasin; and
- (b) encourage hand washing; and
- (c) are easily accessible to children; and
- (d) facilitate the personal washing of young children by carers; and
- (e) safeguard the health of children.

A9

- (a) Premises used for a *child care centre*, other than a *school age care service* or a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, that caters for children older than 15 months, have a washbasin provided for each 10 children or part thereof within the *group* that it serves which-
 - (i) has a maximum height of 500 mm above the floor; and
 - (ii) is situated in the toilet area.
- (b) Premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, other than a *school age care service*, have at least one washbasin provided which-

- (i) has a maximum height of 500 mm above the floor; or
 - (ii) has a stable, portable platform so that the effective height is not more than 500 mm; and
 - (iii) is situated in the toilet area.
- (c) Premises used for a *child care centre*, other than one that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a *school age care service*, are provided with a built-in bath or shower with a hand held shower rose, located within the area accommodating the youngest *age group* above 15 months.
- (d) Premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for children under the age of 15 months, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, are provided with a built-in bath situated at a height of 900 mm and located within the area used by those children, for each *group* of 8 children of that *age group*.
- (e) Premises used for a *child care centre*, other than a *school age care service*, have-
- (i) every required built-in bath, shower and adult washbasin connected with hot and cold water; and
 - (ii) hot water connected to a washbasin, shower or bath which is situated in an area accessible to children, limited to a maximum temperature in accordance with AS 3500.4.

Premises used for a *school age care service* have at least one washbasin situated in the toilet area.

Food preparation facilities**P10**

A *child care centre* must be provided with suitable food preparation and storage facilities which -

- (a) safeguard the health of children from infection; and
- (b) safeguard children from injury; and
- (c) enable perishable food to be stored at a safe temperature; and
- (d) enable food to be prepared in hygienic conditions; and
- (e) enable staff to be able to readily wash their hands for the purpose of handling food.

A10

(a) Food preparation facilities in premises used for a *child care centre*, other than one that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a *school age care service*, are provided in accordance with the following:

- (i) A barrier, and controls to doors that are unable to be operated by children, are installed to prevent unauthorised access by children into the food preparation area.
- (ii) The food preparation facilities are separate from toilet and nappy change facilities.
- (iii) Cupboards are installed for the storage of food, crockery, tableware and kitchen utensils, which provide protection from dust, flies, vermin or other contamination.

(b) Food preparation areas in premises used for a *child care centre*, other than one that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a *school age care service*, are provided in accordance with the following:

- (i) Impervious floor surfaces, washable wall surfaces, impervious bench tops/splash backs and table tops, without cracks and crevices, so as to be easily cleanable.
- (ii) Space and power outlets for refrigerators having a total capacity, excluding freezer,

equal to 10 litres for each child of the *licensed capacity*; situated so as to accommodate-

- (A) at least one refrigerator within each bottle preparation area; and
 - (B) other refrigerators either within the food preparation area or the indoor play areas.
- (iii) A double bowl sink, or a single bowl sink and a dishwasher, with hot and cold water.
 - (iv) A washbasin for staff with hot and cold water.
- (c) Food preparation facilities in premises used for a *child care centre*, that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a *school age care service*, are provided in accordance with the following:
- (i) A space and power outlet for a refrigerator having a capacity of not less than 150 litres (excluding freezer).
 - (ii) A single bowl sink with cold water.
 - (iii) A power outlet suitable for heating water.
- (d) Where required under other legislation, food preparation facilities meet the AS/NZS Food Standards Code.

Bottle preparation areas

- P11** Premises used for a *child care centre* that accommodates children under 15 months, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, must be provided with suitable facilities for the preparation of feeding bottles which -
- (a) safeguard the health of children from infection; and
 - (b) enable bottles to be prepared in hygienic conditions.
- A11** Bottle preparation areas are provided in a *child care centre* that accommodates children under 15 months, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, in accordance with the following:
- (a) One bottle preparation area is provided for each *unit*.
 - (b) Each bottle preparation area-
 - (i) adjoins an indoor play area and is located so as to enable all parts of the play area to be viewed by staff from that location; and
 - (ii) is physically separated from any nappy change area to prevent cross infection, by a distance of not less than 2 m, or by a fixed solid screen extending the full depth of the bench and not less than 1 m above the bench top; and
 - (iii) is provided with a barrier, and any doors have controls which are unable to be operated by children, to prevent unauthorised access into the area by children; and
 - (iv) has a single bowl sink with hot and cold water, not less than 850 mm high; and
 - (v) has at least 1.5 m² area of bench space, with an impervious top and a splash back not less than 300 mm high, without cracks or crevices, so as to be easily cleanable; and
 - (vi) has a power outlet for a heating appliance for bottles.

Play pits

- P12** If a *child care centre* has a play pit, it must provide a safe environment in which children can play.
- A12** Any play pit provided in a *child care centre* has-
- (a) a depth capable of containing 300 mm of play-medium; and
 - (b) all exposed edges rounded to prevent injury to children; and
 - (c) at least 50% of the required area is shaded with a roof that is impervious to water and has a UV radiation resistance of not less than 95%; and
 - (d) drainage to prevent the retention of water, discharged to a point where it will not stagnate or cause a nuisance; and
 - (e) a ventilated cover to prevent contamination but still allow air to circulate, when not in use; and
 - (f) a play-medium to a depth of not less than 300 mm, which is clean and free from toxic and other deleterious materials, and any particles that could pose a choking hazard.

Laundry facilities

- P13** Premises used for a *child care centre* that is not a *school age care service* must be provided with suitable laundry facilities to enable clothing and linen to be washed and to prevent the spread of infection.
- A13** (a) Premises used for a *child care centre*, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a *school age care service* or a services that caters for only 3-5 year olds, have laundry facilities located in a separate room that are provided with-
- (i) a laundry tub and cold water supply; and

- (ii) plumbing connections for a washing machine where centres launder bed linen, childrens' clothes, towels or other items; and
 - (iii) at least 90 cm deep and 80cm wide of bench space for the purpose of storing or sterilising soiled articles prior to laundering; and
 - (iv) a barrier and doors with controls which are unable to be operated by children, that prevent access into the laundry area by children.
- (b) Premises used for a *child care centre* that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a services that caters for only 3-5 year olds, have at least 90 cm deep and 80cm wide of bench space provided for the purpose of storing or sterilising soiled articles prior to laundering off the premise, in a room that is inaccessible to children.

Cleaner's facilities

- P14** Premises used for a *child care centre*, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a *school age care service*, must be provided with suitable cleaner's facilities that are inaccessible to children and which –
- (a) facilitate cleaning of the centre to reduce the risk

- P14** In premises used for a *child care centre*, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week or a *school age care service*, a cleaner's sink with hot and cold water is provided which-
- (a) is located within the building but not in a food preparation area; and
 - (b) has a barrier, and any doors have controls which are unable to be operated by children, to prevent

- of infection; and
- (b) do not pose a hazard to children.

access to the facility by children.

Administration facilities

- P15** Premises used for a *child care centre* other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, or a *school age care service*, must be provided with suitable facilities for administration purposes, which enable -
- (b) administration functions to be carried out independent of the caring for children; and
- (b) consultation with parents to be conducted in private.

A15 Administration facilities are provided In premises used for a *child care centre*, other than a centre that caters for 30 children or less at any one time for 20 hours or less per week, or a *school age care service*, in accordance with the following:

- (a) An area not less than 4m² for administration purposes, separate from and additional to the indoor play area and any staff room.
- (b) An area not less than 4 m² for consultation, which provides privacy from other areas.

Note: The administration area may double as the consultation area providing privacy from other areas can be achieved.

Electrical safety precautions

- P16** All electrical installations in a *child care centre* must be suitably protected to prevent electric shock.

A16 Electrical installations in premises used for a *child care centre* are be provided in accordance with the following:

- (a) The installations comply with AS 3000.
- (b) The installations are protected with a residual current device (RCD) complying with AS 3000.
- (c) Electric light fittings and power outlets in areas accessible to children are at a minimum height of 1.5 m above the floor.

Equipment and chemical safety

- P17** A *child care centre* must safeguard children and staff from injury by inhibiting access by children to all operational equipment and chemical products.
- A17** Premises used for a *child care centre* have-
- (a) any moving parts, controls, or parts which may be at a temperature below 10° C or above 40° C, of machinery, plant, equipment, incinerators, service installations, hot water pipes, storage tanks and the like, fitted with securely fixed solid guards to prevent contact by children, or a barrier equivalent to that required for a swimming pool under AS 1926.1-1993, so as to restrict access by children; and
 - (b) hot water supplied to taps in areas accessible to children limited to a maximum temperature in accordance with the AS 3500.4; and
 - (c) any fan located between 1500 mm and 2400 mm above the floor fitted with a guard in which any opening does not permit a 50 mm sphere to pass through it; and
 - (d) any fan located less than 1500 mm above the floor fitted with a guard situated at least 75 mm from any moving parts and in which any opening does not permit an 8 mm sphere to pass through it; and
 - (e) storage cupboards for chemical substances and for other dangerous items in areas accessible to children fitted with child-resistant latches; and
 - (f) storage cupboards for bulk chemical products and substances in an area inaccessible to children.